

## **CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM**

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Director's Office

Acting Director of Customs – Eric M. Palacios Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 24, 2018

## OCO Workshop Concludes: Sub-regional Workshop on the Revenue Package with Focus on the Harmonized System (HS) 2017



BARRIGADA, GUAM – The Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) and the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO) collaborated to bring the OCO's Sub-Regional Workshop on the Revenue Package with Focus on the Harmonized System (HS) 2017 to the Northern Pacific Region.

The World Trade Organization defines the Harmonized System is an international nomenclature developed by the World Customs Organization, which is arranged in six-digit codes allowing all participating countries to classify traded goods on a common basis.

From July 16 -20, member representatives of the OCO from Palau, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Guam gathered in Guam to meet and discuss the north's progress and share country experiences with the HS.

Together the team identified that meeting, collaborating, and networking as a sub-region, particularly for the HS, will support Guam's ability and capacity as it migrates to a digitized, uniformed, and streamlined customs clearance process. This undertaking will provide better customs services for all stakeholders, facilitate commerce, and afford CQA to maintain a robust border enforcement operation.

The Workshop was facilitated by OCO's Ms. Laisiana Tugaga (Trade and Revenue Management Adviser), Mr. Tevita Tupou (Operations Manager), and New Zealand Customs Service's Senior Policy Analyst, Mr. Colin Brown.

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Mrs. Jessi Santos-Torres at (671) 475-6202 or email <a href="mailto:Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov">Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov</a>.